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<u>REMARKS/DISCUSSION OF ISSUES</u>

Claims 3-7, 9-13 and 15-27 are pending in the application.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for acknowledging the claim for priority and receipt of certified copies of all the priority documents, and for indicating that the drawings are acceptable.

Applicant acknowledges the indication that claims 20 and 24 define patentable subject matter, and would be allowable if rewritten to be in independent form including all limitations of their respective base claims, and any intervening claims.

Reexamination and reconsideration and respectfully requested in view of the following Remarks.

<u>DOUBLE PATENTING</u>

The Office Action rejects claims 3-7, 9-13, 15, 16 and 25-27 for obviousness-type double patenting over U.S. Patent No. 6,661,811.

Applicant will consider the advisability of filing a Terminal Disclaimer to obviate the obviousness-type double patenting rejections once the application is otherwise in condition for allowance.

<u>35 U.S.C. § 102</u>

The Office Action rejects claims 17-19 and 21-23 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 over <u>Lym et al.</u> U.S. Patent 6,680,944 ("<u>Lym</u>").

Applicant respectfully traverses those rejections for at least the following reasons.

<u>Claim 17</u>

Among other things, the method of claim 17 includes synchronizing in frequency clocks in the transmitting/receiving system.

Applicant respectfully submits that <u>Lym</u> does not disclose such a feature.

The Office Action starts that <u>Lym</u> discloses such a feature at col. 4, lines 43-45.

Applicant respectfully disagrees.

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Lym at col. 4, lines 43-45 discusses a "sy field" in an IEC 1883 isochronous data packet, and how a synchronization flag in the sy field is used by some applications to synchronize data in the current isochronous data packet to some application specific event.

It does not discuss any frequency clock; it does not discuss any receiver; and it does not discuss synchronizing in frequency any clocks in any transmitting and receiving system.

Indeed, Lym is not even concerned with receiving and processing transmitted isochronous data packets. Instead, Lym is concerned only with the transmission end, and more specifically with how to calculate an appropriate presentation time to be placed in the header of a packet to be transmitted. In particular, Lym teaches that inaccuracies in the presentation time will occur if the presentation time is just set to a current bus time obtained from a cycle time register of an IEEE1394-1995 bus because of signal processing delays. So, Lym teaches that the presentation time should instead be determined by: (1) first sending some dummy packets from the application to the IEEE1394-1995 bus interface circuit; (2) then obtaining the time stamp value of a particular packet in the data fames from the IEEE1394-1995 bus interface circuit; and (3) using the obtained time stamp value to calculating a presentation time that will more accurately reflect the time at which the packet will actually be transmitted by the IEEE1394-1995 bus interface circuit.

So, Lym does not disclose anything about a receiver, or a frequency clock in a receiver, or synchronizing in frequency clocks in a transmitting/receiving system.

Therefore, Lym cannot disclose the method of claim 17.

Also among other things, the method of claim 17 includes relating the time of processing of a currently received transmission time stamped data packet to the time of processing of a first transmission time stamped data packet.

Applicant respectfully submits that Lym does not disclose such a feature.

The Office Action cites col. 5, lines 14-67 as supposedly disclosing this feature.

Applicant respectfully disagrees.

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The cited text at col. 5, lines 14-67 discloses a method for calculating a presentation time to be placed into a packet header that will more accurately reflect the time at which the packet will actually be transmitted by the IEEE1394-1995 bus interface circuit. It does not disclose anything at all about: (1) receiving any time-stamped data packet; (2) a time when a packet actually will be processed, or (3) relating the actual time of processing of a currently received transmission time stamped data packet to the time of processing of a first transmission time stamped data packet.

Indeed, Lym is not even concerned with the time interval when a transmitted time stamped data packet is processed, but is instead only concerned with more accurately determining a value of a presentation time that should be loaded into a packet's header before transmission.

Therefore, again, Lym cannot disclose the method of claim 17.

Accordingly, for at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 17 is patentable over Lym.

Claims 18-19

Claims 18-19 depend from claim 17 and are deemed patentable for at least the reasons set forth above with respect to claim 17, and for the following additional reasons.

Claim 18

Among other things, the method of claim 18 includes processing a first transmission time stamped data packet at a time interval corresponding to a given time offset after receipt of the packet, where the given time offset is equal to or greater than the maximum variation in time between successive received data packets.

Applicant respectfully submits that Lym clearly does not disclose such a combination of features. Indeed, as discussed above, Lym is not even concerned with the time interval when a transmitted time stamped data packet is actually processed, but is instead only concerned with a value of a presentation time that should be loaded into a packet's header before transmission.

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Accordingly, for at least these additional reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 18 is clearly patentable over Lym.

Claim 19

Among other things, in the method of claim 19 a currently received transmission time stamped data packet is processed at a time corresponding to the time difference between the transmission timestamps of the current data packet and first data packet, after the processing of the first data packet.

As noted above, Lym does not disclose anything about "a currently **received** transmission time stamped data packet. Instead, Lym is concerned with a process for time-stamping a packet before transmission. Lym also does not disclose anything about when a currently received transmission time stamped data packet actually should be processed. And more specifically, Lym does not disclose any method where a currently received transmission time stamped data packet is processed at a time corresponding to the time difference between the transmission timestamps of the current data packet and first data packet, after the processing of the first data packet.

Accordingly, for at least these additional reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 19 is clearly patentable over Lym.

Claim 21

Among other things, the packet based transmitting/receiving network includes receiving means for receiving isochronous transmission time stamped data packets.

The Office Action does not mention the recited receiving means,

Applicant respectfully submits that Lym is not concerned with any such receiving means, and is instead Lym is concerned with a process for time-stamping a packet before transmission.

Therefore, Lym cannot disclose the network of claim 21.

Also among other things, in the packet based transmitting/receiving network of claim 21, the receiving means includes a receiver clock synchronized in frequency with the transmission clock.

As explained above with respect to claim 17, Lym does not disclose anything

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about a receiver, or a frequency clock in a receiver, or synchronizing in frequency
clock in a receiver to a transmission clock.

Therefore, again, Lym cannot disclose the network of claim 21.

Also among other things, the receiving means of the network of claim 21
includes processing means for relating the time of processing of a currently received
transmission time stamped data packet to the time of processing of a first
transmission time stamped data packet.

As explained above with respect to claim 17, Lym is not concerned with the
processing of received data packets, and certainly does not disclose relating the time
of processing of a currently received transmission time stamped data packet to the
time of processing of a first transmission time stamped data packet – or any means
for so doing.

Therefore, again, Lym cannot disclose the network of claim 21.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 21 is patentable over
Lym.

Claims 22-23

Claims 22-23 depend from claim 21 and are deemed patentable for at least
the reasons set forth above with respect to claim 21, and for the following additional
reasons. In the network of claim 22, the processing means processes a first
transmission time stamped data packet at a time interval corresponding to a given
time offset after receipt of the packet, where the given time offset is equal to or
greater than the maximum variation in time between successive received data
packets. As explained above with respect to claim 18, Applicant respectfully submits
that Lym clearly does not disclose such a combination of features.   Accordingly, for
at least these additional reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 22 is
clearly patentable over Lym. And the network of claim 23 includes means for
obtaining the difference between the value of the transmission time stamp of the first
data packet and the value of the transmission time stamp of the current data packet
and means for adding said difference to the time of processing of a first transmission
time stamped data packet. As explained above, Lym is not concerned with the actual
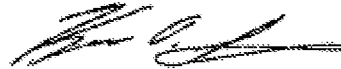
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time of processing any data packets, but instead with a presentation time that should be placed into a header of a data packet.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing explanations, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and reexamine the present application, allow claims 3-7, 9-13 and 15-27 and pass the application to issue. In the event that there are any outstanding matters remaining in the present application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at (571) 283.0720 to discuss these matters.

Respectfully submitted,

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